

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Suspension or)	
)	CONSENT ORDER OF
Revocation of the Educator Certificate of)	
)	SUSPENSION
Raymond A. Burke)	
)	
Certificate 100500)	

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on August 9, 2006. On June 26, 2006, the South Carolina Department of Education (Department) sent Raymond A. Burke a notice of his right to a hearing before the State Board concerning the possible suspension of his South Carolina educator certificate 100500 by regular and certified mail, return receipt, restricted delivery. Upon receipt of that letter, Mr. Burke contacted the Department's Office of General Counsel on July 5, 2006, and agreed to waive his right to a hearing and to accept the suspension of his certificate for a two-year period that would commence retroactively on May 2, 2006, through May 1, 2008. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to order the suspension of Mr. Burke's certificate for the agreed upon period, under the terms outlined in this Order.

Raymond
A. Burke

Initial Here

Date

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Burke holds a professional certificate and has over 31 years of experience as a teacher and administrator. Since the 2000-01 school year, Mr. Burke served as principal of Dubose Middle School in Dorchester County School District Two. On May 2, 2006, Mr. Burke resigned and retired from the District following allegations that he handled school funds inappropriately.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

“The State Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2004), S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58. Just cause includes unprofessional conduct and dishonesty. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004). The State Board finds that the information presented supports its determination that just cause exists to suspend Mr. Burke’s certificate 100500, commencing retroactively on May 2, 2006, through May 1, 2008. If Mr. Burke wishes to have his certificate reinstated at the end of the suspension period, he must make a written request to the Department’s Office of Educator Certification and he will be subject to a character and fitness review, to include a criminal background record check.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: /S/ Joe Isaac

Joe Isaac

Chair

Columbia, South Carolina

August 9, 2006

I, Raymond A. Burke, S.C. Educator Certificate 100500, do hereby agree to the proposed Consent Order of Suspension, consisting of two pages, and understand that this Order will be presented to the State Board of Education for approval on August 9, 2006.

/S/ Raymond A. Burke
Raymond A. Burke

Date